CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1.   A machine translation method for translating from a first language to a second
language through the use of a base dictionary and at least one domain dictionary, in
which said domain dictionary includes at least one of a first compound word dictionary
and a first single word dictionary that includes triggers for changing priorities of
dictionaries and at least one of a second compound word dictionary and a second
single word dictionary that does not include said triggers for changing the priorities of
dictionaries, said machine translation method comprising:

inputting a source text of said first language;

analyzing said inputted source text to determine at least one of a compound
word and a single word that is used in said source text;

judging whether at least one of said determined compound and single words is
included in at least one of said first compound word dictionary and said first single word
dictionary;

setting a priority of a dictionary including at least one of said first compound word
and single word dictionaries higher than that of said base dictionary if said judgment is
true; and

creating a translated sentence of said second language through the use of said
dictionary having the priority set higher.

2.   The machine translation method according to claim 1, wherein said dictionary
having the priority set higher is at least one of said second compound word and single
word dictionaries of said domain dictionary including at least one of said determined
compound and single words.

3.   The machine translation method according to claim 1, wherein said domain
dictionary includes a main domain dictionary and at least one sub-domain dictionary,

3   which belong to at least one of a domain thereof and a domain obtained by further

4   limiting the domain, and said main domain dictionary and said sub-domain dictionary

5   include at least one of said first compound word dictionary and said first single word

6   dictionary that includes triggers for changing the priorities and at least one of said

7   second compound word dictionary and said second single word dictionary that do not

8   include triggers for changing the priorities.

1   4.   The machine translation method according to claim 3, wherein said dictionary

2   having the priority set higher is at least one of said second compound word and single

3   word dictionaries of at least one of said main domain and sub-domain dictionaries

4   including at least one of said determined compound and single words and said second

5   compound word and single word dictionaries of said main domain belonging to the

6   domain in which said sub-domain dictionary including at least one of the determined

7   compound and single words is included.

1   5.   The machine translation method according to claim 1, further comprising:

2   extracting one sentence from the source text of said first language, wherein said

3   determining step, said setting step, and said step of creating a translated sentence are

4   executed for each extracted sentence; and

5   in said setting step, when at least one of the compound and single words

6   included in said dictionary having the priority set higher is not used over a

7   predetermined number of sentences after the priority of said dictionary including at least

8   one of the determined compound and single words is set higher than that of said base

9   dictionary, the priority of said dictionary having the priority set higher is set lower than

10   that of said base dictionary.

1   6.   A machine translation apparatus for translating from a first language to a second

2   language through the use of a base dictionary and at least one domain dictionary, in

3   which said domain dictionary includes at least one of a first compound word dictionary

4 and a first single word dictionary that includes triggers for changing priorities of

5 dictionaries and at least one of a second compound word dictionary and a second

6 single word dictionary that does not include said triggers for changing the priorities of

7 dictionaries, said machine translation apparatus comprising:

8   means for inputting a source text of said first language;

9   means for analyzing said inputted source text to determine at least one of a

10 compound word and a single word that is used in said source text;

11   means for judging whether at least one of said determined compound and single

12 words is included in at least one of said first compound word dictionary and said first

13 single word dictionary;

14   means for setting a priority of a dictionary including at least one of said first

15 compound word and single word dictionaries higher than that of said base dictionary if

16 said judgment is true; and

17   means for creating a translated sentence of said second language through the

18 use of said dictionary having the priority set higher.

1 7.   The machine translation apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said dictionary

2 having the priority set higher is at least one of said second compound word and single

3 word dictionaries of said domain dictionary including at least one of said determined

4 compound and single words.

1 8.   The machine translation apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said domain

2 dictionary includes a main domain dictionary and at least one sub-domain dictionary,

3 which belong to at least one of a domain thereof and a domain obtained by further

4 limiting the domain; and

5   said main domain dictionary and said sub-domain dictionary include at least one

6 of said first compound word dictionary and said first single word dictionary that includes

7 triggers for changing the priorities and at least one of said second compound word

8 dictionary and said second single word dictionary that does not include triggers for

9   changing the priorities.

1   9.   The machine translation apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said dictionary
2   having the priority set higher is at least one of said second compound word and single
3   word dictionaries of at least one of said main domain and sub-domain dictionaries
4   including at least one of said determined compound and single words and at least one
5   of said second compound word and single word dictionaries of said main domain
6   belonging to the domain in which said sub-domain dictionary including at least one of
7   the determined compound and single words is included.

1   10.   The machine translation apparatus according to claim 6, further comprising:
2   means for extracting one sentence from the source text of said first language,
3   wherein said determining means, said setting means, and said means for creating a
4   translated sentence are used for each extracted sentence; and
5   in said setting means, when at least one of the compound and single words
6   included in said dictionary having the priority set higher is not used over a
7   predetermined number of sentences after the priority of said dictionary including at least
8   one of said determined compound and single words is set higher than that of said base
9   dictionary, the priority of said dictionary having the priority set higher is set lower than
10   that of said base dictionary.

1   11.   A computer-readable recording medium having a program recorded therein,
2   which allows a computer to execute translation from a first language to a second
3   language by use of at least one domain dictionary including at least one of a first
4   compound word dictionary and a first single word dictionary that includes triggers for
5   changing priorities of dictionaries and at least one of a second compound word
6   dictionary and a second single word dictionary that does not include said triggers for
7   changing the priorities of dictionaries and a base dictionary, wherein said program
8   causes the computer to perform the steps of:

P1015665;1   27

9   inputting a source text of said first language;

10   analyzing said inputted source text to determine at least one of a compound

11   word and a single word that is used in said source text;

12   judging whether at least one of said determined compound and single words is

13   included in at least one of said first compound word dictionary and said first single word

14   dictionary;

15   setting a priority of a dictionary including at least one of said first compound word

16   and single word dictionaries higher than that of said base dictionary if said judgment is

17   true; and

18   creating a translated sentence of said second language by use of said dictionary

19   having the priority set higher.

1   12.   A computer-readable recording medium having a dictionary recorded therein,

2   said dictionary for use in translating a first language to a second language using a

3   computer, wherein said dictionary includes a base dictionary and at least one domain

4   dictionary; and

5   said domain dictionary includes at least one of a first compound word dictionary

6   and a first single word dictionary that includes triggers for changing priorities of

7   dictionaries and at least one of a second compound word dictionary and a second

8   single word dictionary that does not include said triggers for changing the priorities of

9   dictionaries.

1   13.   A computer-readable recording medium having a dictionary recorded therein,

2   said dictionary for use in translating a first language to a second language using a

3   computer, wherein said dictionary includes a base dictionary and at least one domain

4   dictionary;

5   said domain dictionary includes a main domain dictionary and at least one sub-

6   domain dictionary, which belong to at least one of a domain thereof and a domain

7   obtained by further limiting the domain; and

8   said main domain dictionary and said sub-domain dictionary include at least one

9   of a first compound word dictionary and a first single word dictionary that includes

10   triggers for changing priorities of dictionaries and at least one of a second compound

11   word dictionary and a second single word dictionary that does not include said triggers

12   for changing the priorities of dictionaries.

1   14.   A machine translation method for providing a translation service using a base

2   dictionary and at least one domain dictionary in a computer system and a computer

3   network, which include first and second computers, in which said domain dictionary

4   includes at least one of a first compound word dictionary and a first single word

5   dictionary that includes triggers for changing priorities of dictionaries and at least one of

6   a second compound word dictionary and a second single word dictionary that does not

7   include said triggers for changing the priorities of dictionaries, said machine translation

8   method comprising:

9   receiving a source text of said first language by said first computer;

10   analyzing said inputted source text to determine at least one of a compound

11   word and a single word that is used in said source text;

12   judging whether at least one of said determined compound and single words is

13   included in at least one of said first compound word dictionary and said first single word

14   dictionary;

15   setting a priority of a dictionary including at least one of said first compound word

16   and single word dictionaries higher than that of said base dictionary if said judgment is

17   true;

18   creating a translated sentence of said second language by use of said dictionary

19   having the priority set higher; and

20   transmitting the translated sentence of said second language to said second

21   computer.